

SENATE RESOLUTION 150

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Bob Black upon  
gaining recognition on the Fulton High School  
Wall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor and recognize those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Bob Black, who was recently honored by the Fulton High School Alumni Association, which will place his name, along with four others, on the Association's new Wall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Black and his fellow Wall of Fame inductees were honored at a banquet held April 30, 2009, at Rothchild Catering and Conference Center in Knoxville; Fulton's current Principal, Jon Rysewyk, served as the event's keynote speaker and guests were also treated to a video presentation focused on the inductees, their lives, and their accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the names of these five honorees will be inscribed on a wall on the second floor of the school, on the east side near the lobby outside the auditorium; the spot was chosen because so many students, staff members, and visitors pass by that wall every day; and

WHEREAS, born on November 2, 1942, Bob Black graduated from Fulton High School in 1960 and went on to graduate from Carson-Newman College in 1965; and

WHEREAS, during his time at Fulton High School, he was widely known for his outstanding performances on the football, basketball, and baseball teams; a superior athlete who was a vital part of every team he joined, Mr. Black was a member of the football and baseball teams at Carson-Newman, where he was named to the All-Conference, All-Area, and Little All-American teams in football; and

WHEREAS, for his remarkable athletic talent, Bob Black was named to the Carson-Newman College All-Century Football Team and was the honored recipient of an “Amateur Football Award” from the East Tennessee Chapter of the National Football Foundation; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, Mr. Black has served as a teacher and football coach at Fulton High School; between 1976 and 2007, he also served as the Athletic Director for the high school; and

WHEREAS, a deeply admired educator and coach, Bob Black taught driver education from 1965 until 1980, when he began instructing students in physical education, which he continues to teach; he has also volunteered as a Young Life leader at Fulton High School for more than twenty years; and

WHEREAS, outside of the classroom, Mr. Black has put his athletic expertise to great use as a Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) baseball umpire for thirty-eight years, a TSSAA Baseball Umpire Training Coordinator for fifteen years, and a Southeastern Conference and Atlantic Coast Conference baseball umpire for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his recent inclusion on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame, Bob Black has received many honors and accolades over the course of his storied career; he was honored as the 1996 Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association “Sports Hero” for Tennessee, received the 1999 Carson-Newman College Alumni “Outstanding Community Service Award,” was named 2000-2001 TSSAA “Athletic Director of the Year,” and was inducted into the Carson-Newman College Sports Hall of Fame and the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Bob Black’s positive influence was heralded when the Fulton High School football field was named “Bob Black Field” in his honor; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep faith, Mr. Black is a devoted member of Washington Pike United Methodist Church, where he has served as a Sunday school and children’s sermon teacher for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, his many professional and community achievements aside, Bob Black is thankful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Brenda, and for every moment he gets to spend with his children, DeAngela, Rob, Kristi, and Kelley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Black is the proud grandfather of twelve grandchildren, Brooke, Justin, Makaley, Makenna, Brittnee, Myka, Hannah, Taylor, Gage, Kaden, Cruze, and Boston; and

WHEREAS, given the list of his achievements and accolades, it is little wonder that Bob Black would be placed on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame; he is a testament to the potential that Tennessee's high school students can realize if their ambition and talent are complemented by a rigorous education; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Bob Black who use their considerable talents and resources to serve their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Black has demonstrated a wholehearted commitment to the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee that proud moniker, the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Bob Black upon his inclusion on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame, commend him for the service he has rendered to the people of his community and this State, and wish him all the very best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.